

U.S. - China Environmental Biz Newsletter
June, 2005
Commercial Service, China

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1) ADB \$ 500,000 Technical Assistance on Nanjing Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation

Project Name: Nanjing Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation
Project No.: PRC 37603-01
Executing Agency: Nanjing Municipal Government
Address: 41 Eastern Beijing Road, Nanjing 2100
Jiangsu Province, China
Fax. No.: (86-25) 5771-4640
TA Amount: US\$ 500,000.00

The main objective of the technical assistance (TA) is to prepare an investment project suitable for ADB financing that will facilitate economic development, environmental protection and improvement of quality of life in Nanjing through extended and improved wastewater treatment and sewerage infrastructure and mitigation of flood risks. The Project will result in a reduction of waterborne pollution and flood risk in urban Nanjing, with particular focus on the Qinhuai river catchment. The TA will help NMG establish the technical, economic, financial, social and environmental justification of the proposed Project and support NMG to prepare plans in compliance with ADB safeguard policies. In addition, the TA will review proposed Project implementation arrangements and identify required capacity building needs. The scope of the proposed Project includes (i) municipal wastewater management; (ii) river system management; (iii) stormwater management; and (iv) sludge management.

Consulting Services: Consulting services yet to be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission in-field: 10 May 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: Requirements for consulting services to be completed during Fact-finding Mission.

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2) ADB \$ 400,000 Technical Assistance on Dry land Farming in Northern Region

Project Name: Dry land Farming in Northern Region
Project No.: PRC 38301-01
Executing Agency: Ministry of Agriculture
TA Amount: US\$ 400,000.00

The technical assistance (TA) will assist the Government to prepare a project focusing on reducing the rate of land degradation in the PRC through the widespread adoption of Conservation Agriculture production techniques. The TA will assist the Government in developing an investment proposal comprising of a package of investment, policy, and institutional measures which will address land degradation and provide complementary sustainable income generation activities to improve living conditions of the farmers that have had a strong influence on the occurrence and degree of land degradation.

Consulting Services: A consulting firm will be selected in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants and other arrangements for the selection and engagement of consultants. ADB will finance 37 person-months (pm) of consulting services comprising of 13 pm international consultants, and 24 pm domestic consultants. The required international consultants, financed by ADB are (i) Sustainable Agriculture cum Economic Specialist/Team Leader (5 pm); (ii) Project Economist/Financial Analyst (4 pm); (iii) Conservation Agriculture Specialist (2 pm); and (iv) Agronomist (2 pm). The required domestic consultants, financed by ADB are (i) Economist/Financial Analyst (4 pm); (ii) Dryland Ecosystem Specialist (3 pm); (iii) Conservation Agriculture Specialist (5 pm); (iv) Agri-business Specialist (3 pm); (v) Animal Husbandry (3 pm); (vi) Poverty Specialist/Sociologist (3 pm); and (vii) Natural Resources Assessment Specialist (3 pm).

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 28 March 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in July 2005.

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3) News: Five New Emission Standards for Vehicles

On April 27th 2005, the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) issued five new emission standards for vehicles.

These five new standards include 'Limits and Measurement Methods for Emissions from Light-duty Vehicles (III, IV)', 'Limits and Measurement Methods for Fuel Evaporative Pollutants from Heavy-duty Vehicles Equipped with P.I engines', 'Limits and Measurement Methods for Crankcase Pollutants From Heavy-duty Vehicles Equipped with P.I engines', 'Limit and Measurement Method of Noise Emitted by Stationary Motorcycles and Mopeds' and 'Limit and Measurement Method of Noise Emitted by Accelerating Motorcycles and Mopeds'. Standard III for light-duty vehicles will become effective on July 1, 2007. Standard IV, for light-duty vehicles, will become effective on July 1, 2010. Other standards will become effective on July 1, 2007.

According to SEPA personnel, the production and ownership of automobiles in China is increasing rapidly. Today, there are over 20 million automobiles and 45 million motorcycles in China. So pollution emitted by automobiles has already become one of the biggest urban pollution sources.

To strictly control the pollution emitted, the new standards regulate not only the pollutant emission limits, but also the implementation process and monitoring requirements.

(Resource: ERM EHS Review)

4) Notice for the Approval and Management of Scrap Steel Importation

To strengthen the management of scrap steel importation and mitigate the pollution resulting from imported scrap steel, the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) issued this notice on the 30th of April. According to the notice, steel smelt companies, which are in compliance with relevant national industry policies, and environmental regulations could apply to SEPA for approval for scrap steel importation. Specific documents such as certificates, showing that discharges meet the relevant standard, must accompany applications.

In addition, companies working on scrap metal processing can apply for the importation of scrap steel at an amount equal to or less than 10% of their annual production. However, those companies must hold contracts with steel smelt companies that are in compliance with environmental regulations, to successfully gain importation approval. Any companies violating this notice will be ordered to stop importation business and will be held legally liable.

(Resource: ERM EHS Review)

5) RMB 50.2 Million National Bond for Mine safety

On the 9th of May, to minimise the amount of accidents resulting from mine gases, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) together with the State Administration of Safe Work (SASW) issued a national bond of 50.2 million RMB for the construction of mine gas monitoring systems in 14 provinces.

The total investment will be 167.3 million RMB, of which local governments will pay 12.6 million and companies will cover the remaining 104.4 million.

(Resource: ERM EHS Review)

6) 6th International Conference on Energy-Efficiency Lighting in Shanghai

The Right Light 6 (6th International Conference on Energy-Efficiency Lighting) was hosted by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), Shanghai Economic Department and the International Association for Energy Efficient Lighting (IAEEL) on the 9th of May in Shanghai. More than 200 people from national and local government, UNEP, international institutes and academic institutes attended the conference.

Presentations and seminars were held on topics from lighting industry, lighting design and technologies to the role of government on accelerating energy saving etc. After the conference, attendees visited the International Lighting Facility Exhibition (Shanghai).

During the conference, the big potential of energy saving in China was also recognized.

In China, the electricity consumption by lighting presents 12% of the total electricity consumed. 60-80% of electricity consumption for lighting could be saved by adopting energy efficient lighting products.

China started the nationwide green light project in the 1990s to develop energy efficient lighting products, save energy and protect the environment. In 2004, the GDP produced by the lighting industry was approximately 110 billion RMB. It was estimated that the electricity saved during 1996 to 2004 was 45 billion kWh, which is equivalent to 13 million ton of CO₂ emissions.

The government is trying to accelerate the wider use of green lighting facilities during 2005 to 2010 (11th Five Year Plan) especially in public places, hotels, commercial buildings, sporting facilities and residential houses.

(Resource: ERM EHS Review)

7) Beijing is upgrading its Hazardous Source Management System

According to 'the Ordinance for Work Safety in Beijing' and the new 'National Standard for the Identification of Significant Hazardous Sources', Beijing is going to build up its management system for hazardous sources and assist manufacturing units to register, document and establish emergency plans for their hazardous sources from June to December 2005. Beijing is also planning to undertake a complete investigation of hazardous sources located in the city.

The new significant hazardous source system is going to use a virtual map of Beijing and add new functions including significant hazardous source registration, automatic hazardous source identification, evaluation and classification, risk assessment, monitoring and management and emergency planning assistance.

Right now, there are 957 types of significant hazardous sources in Beijing categorized as: tanks (879 sources), storage (26 sources) and manufacturing sites (52 sources). Categorized by level of hazard, there are 79 level I sources, 221 level II sources, 316 level III sources and 341 level IV sources.

(Resource: ERM EHS Review)

8) One-year Environmental Investigation in Shandong Province

From the end of April 2005, Shandong Province started the overall environmental investigation that will last for one year. According to relevant departments in Shandong, this investigation focuses on issues including facilities for waste transport and treatment, wastewater discharge, de-sulphurization facilities and their operations in electricity power plants, the construction, management and operation of wastewater treatment plants, the water quality in main water bodies and public complaints on environmental issues.

Local government at city level organizes this investigation. The methods for monitoring combine both the regular and random investigation. At least one investigation shall be undertaken per quarter for each of the targeted plants. Companies engaged in actions like over discharging and persons liable for those actions will be penalized strictly according to relevant regulations.

(Resource: ERM EHS Review)

9) The 4th Edition of the Chinese Language U.S. Environmental Handbook Coming up

U.S. firms selling products and services to China's environmental industry will have an opportunity to list their company description, contact information and logo in the 4th edition of the U.S. Environmental Handbook. This Chinese language publication is published by the Commercial Service in China and is distributed to approximately 3000 Chinese government officials, environmental companies and technical experts throughout China. It will be made available on the Commercial Service China website and distributed at major environmental conferences and exhibitions in 2005. Last year's the handbook included almost 100 company listings in the following categories: Air, Water, Waste, General and Hazardous Waste Disposal. More information about the handbook will be available soon.

Please see last year's edition for more information:

http://www.buyusa.gov/china/zh/environmental_handbook.html

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